

Cleansing the palate: Cal Poly graduates invent wine-tasting phenomenon



COURTESY PHOTO

SanTásti, the palate-cleansing sparkling beverage for wine-tasters invented by two Cal Poly graduates, has been gaining international attention.

Scott Silvey
MUSTANG DAILY

Palate fatigue: It's been the scourge of wine tasters for years. Many tasters just cannot distinguish different wines after tasting a few; the flavors begin to blend together.

But two Cal Poly graduates have created an innovative new product they say will take all the confusion out of a tasting experience.

SanTásti is the brainchild of Andrew Macaluso and Nicole Chamberlain, two wine and viticulture graduates who created the palate cleanser beverage after taking classes in sensory analysis at Cal Poly.

"After doing a sensory panel for our senior project we looked at another criteria," Macaluso said. "Quality (was given) based on order it was tasted in. The results showed wines tasted second almost always scored better than the (wines) first."

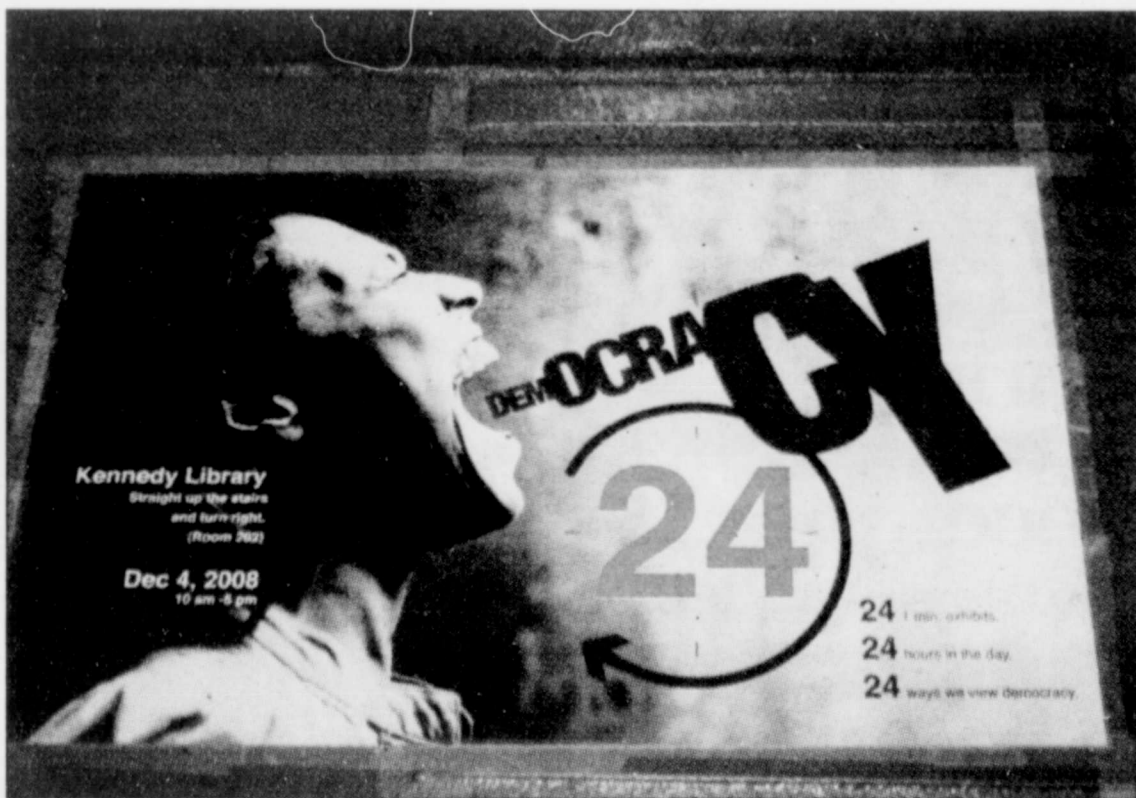
The two decided they wanted to do something about this.

"Palate fatigue has always plagued the wine industry," Chamberlain said. "Right now, Pellegrino water and crackers are the only alternative offered. It came down to whether there was a market for it. So we decided to take a chance and see if it could work."

They started testing a few milliliters of

see Wine, page 2

A day's worth of democracy comes to Poly



BRIDGET VELTRI MUSTANG DAILY

Democracy 24 will be displayed on the second floor of the library today. The exhibit is not about at any political party, but the concept of democracy as a whole.

Bridget Veltri
MUSTANG DAILY

There will be 24 exhibits and 24 different ways for Cal Poly students to see democracy — though not quite in 24 hours.

Democracy 24 will be on display in the Kennedy Library between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. today.

"It is 24 exhibits about how different Cal Poly students view democracy, modeled after a clock and the hours in the day," liberal arts and engineering studies senior Justin Alvarez said. "Democracy comes in all shapes and forms; it's not solely a political ideology," Alvarez said. "If you look at the exhibits, some of them have very little to do with politics."

David Gillette, co-director of the liberal arts and engineering sciences major and English professor, spent a portion of the quarter teaching his classes about the different ways people define democracy both here and abroad. Three of Gillette's classes put on Democracy 24.

"Most of the exhibits are designed to get people to

see Democracy, page 3

Proposal to park city park passe — for now

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

Before the start of the San Luis Obispo City Council meeting Tuesday evening, the room was filled with the low chatter of community members in anticipation of the possible council decision regarding the proposed construction of a new parking lot behind the Senior Center located in Mitchell Park.

Newly-elected council members heard the issue for the first time. Jan Marx voted to overturn the parking lot proposal in the campaign, and John Ashbaugh said he would seek better parking for the senior center while keeping the park safe.

The council tentatively approved a smaller version of the parking lot than originally proposed by a vote of 3-2. The issue will come back to the council meeting on Jan. 6, 2009.

For the past 20 years, seniors have requested additional parking while the struggle to find adequate parking near the Senior Center located on the corner of Santa Rosa and Buchon streets.

Nearly 30 community members, ranging from park neighbors to environmentalists to seniors, spoke in front of the council in both opposition and support of the issue.

"Our city's growing density places even more pressure upon our few open spaces," said Rosemary Wilvert, a senior San Luis Obispo resident. "A central square block historical park is a treasure few cities have. To pave one of these is backward thinking."

Emily McBride, along with 12-year-old brother Peter, who held signs in protest saying "Save Don't Pave," spoke against the parking lot after growing up playing in the park.

"I know that this will not be a positive change," McBride said. "There are alternatives to a parking lot like making half of the parking spaces around the park for seniors to use the center during the day. Many people, including kids, love this park."

Alternatives for the lot suggested by community members included utilizing public transportation, carpooling, walking, riding a bicycle, adding drop-off spaces for seniors and the addition of diagonal parking. However, the council and a number of seniors viewed these alternatives as unrealistic because there are seniors who may not be able to walk certain distances or ride bicycles.

Supporters of the proposed parking lot claimed that the lack of parking prevented seniors from visiting the center and more parking would create better access.

"The off-street parking is just as important for our aging community, not only for their safety, but also to support their ability to recreate, socialize and serve their

see Council, page 1

TODAY'S WEATHER

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NEWS



Former Calif. Assembly speaker's son charged with murder.

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ARTS



The top 10 list of holiday activities for those stuck in town over the holidays.

page 8

SPORTS



The Novachkov brothers are a force to be reckoned with on the wrestling mat.

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Alternative holdings sour for endowments, pensions

Rachel Beck and Joe Bel Bruno
ASSOCIATED PRESS

College endowments and state pension funds poured billions of dollars into hedge funds and private-equity investments as a way to balance their stock holdings, and for a time they got supercharged returns.

Those days are over. From Harvard University to the state pension fund of California, officials are watching the value of their alternative investments shrink.

So far, the losses are mostly on paper, but analysts say they could eventually lead to reduced payouts to retirees, higher taxes so state governments can fulfill their promises, or less cash available for colleges to give out financial aid.

"Everyone was in a desperate search to find returns," said Colin Blaydon, head of the Center for Private Equity and Entrepreneurship at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business. "Now they have to face the dirty little secret that those investments aren't in great shape."

In recent years, endowments and pensions heaped cash into hedge funds — private investment funds that often use unconventional and risky trading strategies, and they also bought into private equity funds, which

make direct investments into private companies or buy them out.

It's too soon to know the depth of the damage from these investments. Annual results won't be in until January for pensions and July for endowments.

But there are already indications that the value of these alternative investments is falling, including disclosures from some publicly traded private-equity firms that some of their holdings are worth less than they were just months ago.

The weakness in those holdings has delivered another punch to colleges and pension funds, which are bracing for the worst.

Harvard University announced this week that its endowment tumbled since July 1 by about \$8 billion, or 22 percent, to about \$29 billion, and said that "sobering figure" doesn't fully capture its losses because it doesn't reflect declines in its private-equity and real estate investments. It forecast total losses for its fiscal year ending in June 2009 could be as much as 30 percent, its worst performance on record.

"All of us will need not merely to contemplate changes at the margins, but to take a more fundamental look at how to align our spending with revenues that will be significantly reduced from what we had imagined just a few months ago," said a Dec. 2 letter from university leaders to deans.

In California, the public pension fund Calpers says state, local and county gov-

ernments may have to chip in as much as an additional 4 percent beginning in mid-2010 to cover its pension losses. Its total assets had fallen from \$260 billion last fiscal year to just \$178 billion on Dec. 1.

The pension fund for public employees in Wisconsin says it may have to cut monthly payments to retirees by as much as 3.5 percent — the first reduction in its 26-year history. Its Core Fund, a mix of investments including private equity, lost 26 percent from January through October.

If that happens, Berland Meyer, a retired deputy school superintendent in Wausau, Wis., said he and his wife, a retired teacher, expect they could receive up to \$1,000 less per month in state annuities.

"We won't go out to eat as much as we had in the past," he said. "I'm sure I won't be buying as many trinkets at Home Depot. ... We'll do a lot more thinking before we spend."

This was hardly what pension funds and endowments had in mind.

After the dot-com stock bust wrecked their portfolios at the start of the decade, pensions and endowments poured cash into hedge funds, private equity, commodities and real estate — and for a few years, it looked like a smart move.

For private-equity firms, the strategy was to purchase companies, strip out costs and flip them for a profit. Investor cash and massive debt fueled their buy-

see Endowments, page 3

Council

continued from page 1

community," said Agatha Reardon, a San Luis Obispo resident.

The four-hour meeting ended with the 3-2 vote, but not without council members Marx and Allen Settle clearly objecting to the idea of paving Mitchell Park.

The proposal that has been under consideration was different than what was presented at the meeting, which surprised some of the council and audience members.

A 14-space lot with diagonal spaces, possibly affecting a Heritage Tree in the park and exiting on Santa Rosa Street, was the proposal under consideration. However, the council ended up voting on a new lot with 12 spaces with an entry and exit on Buchon Street.

Mayor Dave Romero, along with council members John Ashbaugh and Andrew Carter, voted in favor of the lot. Council members Marx and Settle opposed the idea.

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Wine

continued from page 1

their product with other members of the wine and viticulture sensory analysis classes they were apart of.

The results were positive enough that the two students entered the Cal Poly Innovation Quest contest.

"We owe a lot to Innovation Quest," Chamberlain said. "We won first place in last year's contest. We entered thinking 'Let's meet some people and network and see what we can get out of it' and won first place. It gave us

validation in thinking, 'We're not crazy, we can pull this off.'"

With the prize money in their pocket, the duo began visiting local wineries and testing SanTasti. They toured 30 wineries in 30 days.

"We went day by day," Macaluso said. "You slowly move forward and here we are."

One of the local wineries carrying SanTasti is 15 Degrees C in Templeton. Owner Ali Rush Carscaden said that the beverage is so popular that they are nearly sold out and will soon order another shipment.

"As a wine connoisseur I love it," she said. "I think it's a great

idea and it works very well."

Rush Carscaden added that wine drinkers aren't the only ones buying SanTasti.

"It's great for palate cleansing after a big meal or a cup of coffee in the morning and it's a light refreshing beverage in addition," he said.

Less than three months after their initial production run, SanTasti has not only taken off on a local level; word of mouth has put them on an international stage.

"We're having a lot of distributors approaching us," Macaluso said. "We're even talking to people outside the country in London and in Tel-Aviv, Israel about exclusive distribution rights."

The first production run went so well that the duo has stopped actively taking orders for the beverage while preparations are made for a second production run.

SanTasti comes in three flavors: the original, which is similar to a sparkling water, cinnamon and peppermint. Macaluso said that the retail price varies in places but is generally between \$2.50 and \$3 per bottle.

Macaluso and Chamberlain said that Cal Poly's resources helped them tremendously in SanTasti's creation.

"Cal Poly is a great school with great resources to take advantage of," Macaluso said. "There are a lot of people on campus that want to start a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship."

Chamberlain agreed, adding that students should be proactive with their creative ideas.

"I would urge any student with an idea, don't be afraid to break the mold," Chamberlain said. "There are a lot of resources out there if you just ask."

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Democracy

continued from page 1

ask themselves how they define democracy," he said. "The goal is to get people to think about how they would define it for themselves."

Democracy 24 isn't about being a Democrat or a Republican, but about the subject of democracy as a whole, Alvarez said.

"We wanted to keep it as objective as possible. We aren't focusing on political ideologies per se but about how we view democracy," he said.

Gillette got the idea for the 24 hour theme from the Constitution Center in Philadelphia and a series of documentaries. Most of the exhibits in Democracy 24 were done as group projects with a few exceptions.

"Each group chose an hour and country and had two minutes through video and audio technology to demonstrate their definition of democracy," Gillette said. "We wanted them to be a little abstract so people would have to think about the exhibits; they are designed to be short but complex and have depth to them."

Visitors to Democracy 24 will be greeted by a massive protest. The first exhibit is about the role protests play in democracy.

"It's about protests and how they keep democracies in check," business senior Ben Eckold said.

"Our whole vibe for our exhibit was to help people experience what it's like to be a part of a protest through music, visuals and video footage of historical protests."

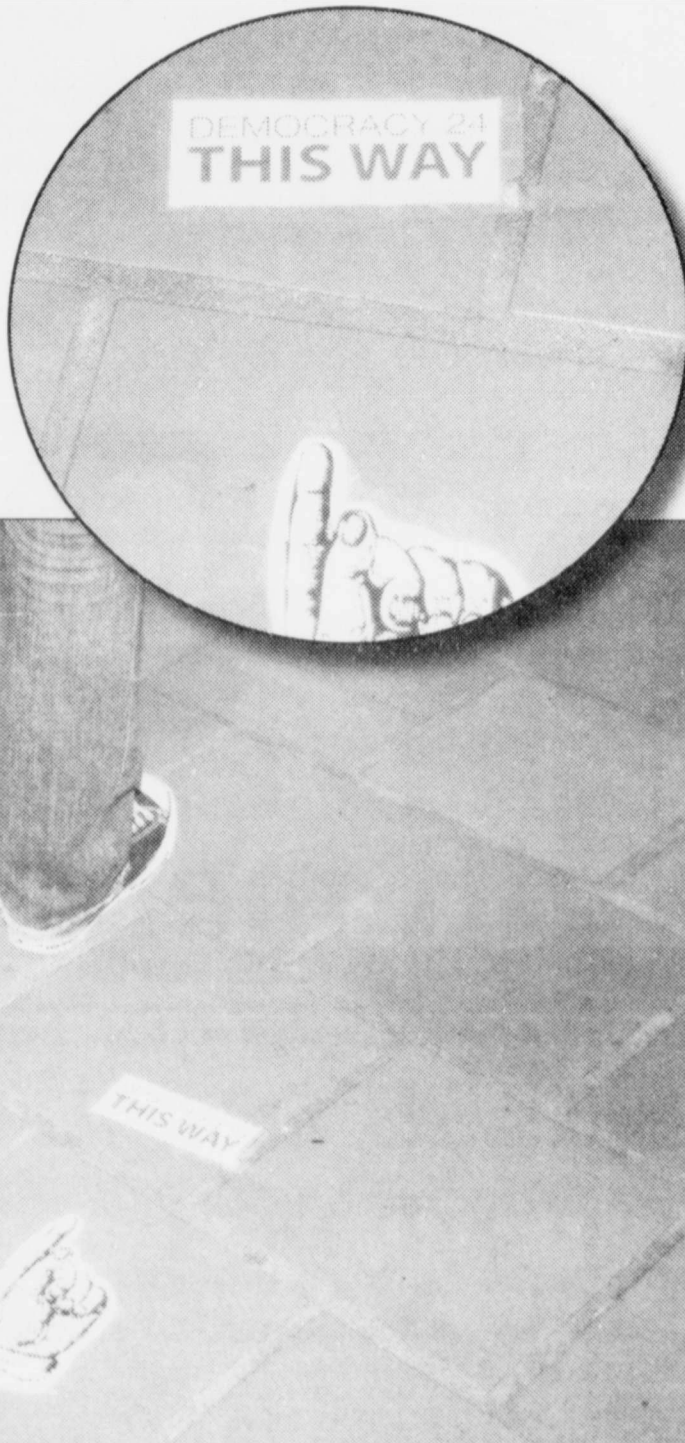
All of the exhibits have some media element to them but some are more interactive than others.

Alvarez's exhibit concerns the new U.S. citizenship test. In addition to information about it, visitors can take the test itself.

"It simulates what it would be like to go through one of the steps required to apply for citizenship," he said.

Democracy 24 will be on display in the library room 202.

"I think people are going to be studying anyway, and it is a great study break," Eckold said. "It encourages students to contemplate what democracy means to them."



BRIDGET VELTRI MUSTANG DAILY

Signs in the Kennedy Library point the way towards Democracy 24, an exhibit exploring the ideology.

Endowments

continued from page 2

ing sprees.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which has more than \$10 billion in assets intended to support health care causes, boosted its alternative holdings from 13 percent of its total investments in 2001 to 33 percent in 2007, according to its financial reports. It has not disclosed any recent information about performance.

And last year, the nation's state and local pension funds put \$147 billion into alternative investments, 18 percent more than the year before, according to research by the National Association of State Retirement Administrators.

Educational endowments put about \$144 billion into alternative investments from July 2006 through June 2007, about 8 percent more than the year before, according to Commonfund, which advises and manages money for universities and nonprofits.

Critics say the party had to end.

Doug Kass, president of the Florida investment firm Seabreeze Partners Management, says hedge and private-equity funds overpaid for many takeovers, used too much debt to finance the deals and charged excessive fees. So when bad times come and the now-private companies struggle, those investors will be the first to lose if companies go bankrupt or need restructuring.

"These funds relied on the kindness of institutional investors who were intoxicated by hysterical returns," said Kass, who is known as a short-seller, or someone who makes bets on declines in the

market.

Already, managers of hedge and private-equity funds are pressing investors to pony up more cash to avoid having to sell assets at fire-sale prices.

At the same time, some pension fund and endowments are looking to sell their alternative holdings — and get out before they're hurt even more.

Private-equity funds account for about \$900 million of the University of Virginia's endowment and other funds or about one-fifth of the total holdings. Those private-equity investments dropped nearly 13 percent from July to September.

The company that manages the holdings may sell some of the private-equity investments "at attractive prices," according to a recent letter from its CEO. But anyone who wants to sell now faces a weak market.

The state pension fund in New Jersey is actually buying — putting nearly \$30 million into four hedge funds in October, at the height of the financial market meltdown.

Among the investments was an extra \$144 million into a fund managed by BlackRock Inc. after the investment firm called for an emergency cash infusion. The addition brought New Jersey's stake in the fund to \$544 million.

State officials said it was still a good investment, and they expect a return of 20 percent on the new contribution. But one lawmaker said it amounted to throwing good money after bad.

"Hedge funds are supposed to act as insurance against market volatility," said New Jersey state Sen. Joseph Pennacchio, a Republican. "Now we have to insure the insurance."

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading.

Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

- The Mustang Daily reported in Wednesday's edition that University Police Chief Bill Watton confirmed the death, autopsy and investigation. The correct attribution was San Luis Obispo Police Chief Dan Blanke. We apologize for the error.

CAREER CORNER

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GRADUATE STATUS SURVEY

ATTENTION GRADUATING SENIORS:

Career Services is currently collecting data on the whereabouts of Cal Poly's 2007-2008 graduates. Data collected is compiled into the annual Graduate Status Report, which is used to provide information to incoming and currently enrolled students at Cal Poly. So, if you are graduating this quarter, or graduated in the last year, we need you to complete the confidential Graduate Status Survey online at <https://www.careers.calpoly.edu/gsr.php>.

This information is not only helpful to the university, but is also helpful to your academic department, as well as current and potential students. Graduates' names are not listed in reports, nor are employers linked with specific salary offers.

If you would like to see what last year's graduates are doing, you can access the Graduate Status Report online at: https://www.careers.calpoly.edu/search_2007.php

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Former Assembly Speaker's son charged with murder



RICH PEDRONCELLI ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this 2004 file photo, Assemblyman Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, center, and his 15 year old son Esteban Nunez, right, are seen before Nunez is sworn-in as the new Assembly Speaker during ceremonies at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif. Nunez's son Esteban Nunez, now 19, is one of four people charged in the death of 22-year-old Luis Santos and the stabbing of three other men on Oct. 4.

Elliot Spagat
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Four Sacramento men, including the son of former California Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, went looking for revenge after being turned away from a fraternity party

the night a San Diego college student was stabbed to death, then tried to destroy evidence, according to an arrest warrant released Wednesday.

Esteban Nunez, 19, and the others returned to San Diego on Wednesday to face murder charges, a day after they were arrested in Sac-

ramento.

They are charged with one count of murder, three counts of assault with a deadly weapon and a misdemeanor count of vandalism for the Oct. 4 death and face a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted of murder.

An arrest warrant filed in San Diego paints a picture of a group of friends who went out looking for trouble and then tried to cover up their actions. Police said they had gone to San Diego to party.

After being turned away from a fraternity party near San Diego State University, Esteban Nunez and the others went to a friend's apartment, where they drank

beer and rum.

The friend, Briana Perez, described people in her apartment becoming increasingly agitated about being rejected from the party. Some said, "Let's go burn down their

see Nunez, page 7

Police: Shackled Calif. boy jumped fence to escape

Terry Collins and Marcus Wohlsen
ASSOCIATED PRESS

After being held captive for nearly a year, an emaciated and shackled 17-year-old boy climbed out a window in the home of his captors and walked into a nearby gym in search of help, police said.

Authorities were still investigating the boy's alleged imprisonment and abuse by a California couple, but details of his escape were becoming clearer Wednesday, police said.

Law enforcement officers also were trying to determine how the teen knew the couple accused of holding him against his will for nearly a year.

Caren Ramirez was arrested Tuesday in Berkeley, a day after the boy walked into a gym and begged managers to hide him. He was covered in soot, had a chain on his foot and was wearing only boxer briefs.

Police arrested a couple who lived near the gym in Tracy and booked them on suspicion of torture, kidnapping and child abuse. Tracy is about 60 miles east of San Francisco.

Ramirez, 43, had been the teen's guardian after child-welfare officials took him from his abusive father three or four years ago, police said. Ramirez herself was later arrested for allegedly abusing the boy, and he

was placed in a Sacramento foster home, which he fled in late 2007, police said.

Since then, the boy's whereabouts were unknown until Monday, when he entered the fitness center.

Police had said there were conflicting reports about how he ended up at the gym. The boy told investigators he had been chained inside a sport utility vehicle that pulled up to the home. After going inside the house, he climbed through a rear window and jumped the fence between the backyard and a fitness center, the boy reported.

"He found his opportunity and he took it. It's basically luck that all occurred," Tracy police spokesman Matt Robinson said.

Kelly Layne Lau, 30, and Michael Schumacher, 34, were arrested earlier Tuesday and were jailed in lieu of bail set at nearly \$1.2 million each. They were set to appear in court Thursday. Authorities said neither they nor Ramirez had attorneys.

Lau and Schumacher's four young children, two of whom were home when police arrived, were taken into protective custody, authorities said.

Gym manager Chuck Ellis said the teen was scared someone was going to come after him and asked to be hidden.

The boy said he had been held captive for nearly a year, said Ellis, adding that he looked as if he was only 10 to 12 years old.



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Elephants create controversy



DAMIAN DOVARGANES ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles Councilman Tom LaBonge right, expresses his support for the Los Angeles Zoo elephant display to opposition activists, actresses from left: Jorja Fox, Lily Tomlin and Mariana Tosca, as they await their turn to urge the Los Angeles City Council to shut down a \$42 million elephant exhibit under construction at the Los Angeles Zoo in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

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SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Adobe Systems Inc. released better-than-expected preliminary earnings for the fourth quarter late Wednesday, but said it will cut 600 jobs, or 8 percent of its work force, because of slower revenue growth.

The company said it expects earnings of 45 cents to 46 cents per share, compared with 49 cents per share in the year-earlier period.

Excluding certain items, Adobe said it expects to earn 59 cents to 60 cents per share. Analysts, who typically exclude one-time charges or gains, projected 51 cents, according to Thomson Reuters.

...

KING CITY, Calif. (AP)

— A shooting in King City High School bleachers after a girls soccer game left at least one person wounded.

Greenfield police Chief Joe Grebmeier says one person was shot in the stomach and head at about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday and there was apparently a second victim. King City police aren't releasing any information.

The gunfire erupted as North Salinas and King City high school players were congratulating each other after the game, which North Salinas won 4-1.

North Salinas coach Luis Torrez says the gunfire came from the top of the stadium bleachers. He says none of his players were hurt.

Briefs

National

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Democrat Charlie Brown conceded defeat to Republican state Sen. Tom McClintock on Wednesday in their hard-fought race for California's 4th Congressional District House seat.

Brown made the decision a day after counties turned in their final vote tallies to the secretary of state, showing McClintock with a lead of nearly 1,800 votes out of more than 370,000 counted.

Brown could have requested a recount, but McClintock's lead looked insurmountable and the Democrat called his opponent Wednesday to formally bow out.

...

GARDEN CITY, N.J. (AP)

— The family of a worker trampled to death in a "Black Friday" crush of bargain hunters at a Long Island Wal-Mart store filed a wrongful-death lawsuit on Wednesday, claiming store ads offering deep discounts "created an atmosphere of competition and anxiety" that led to "crowd craze."

The lawsuit claims that besides failing to provide adequate security for a pre-dawn crowd estimated at 2,000, Wal-Mart "engaged in specific marketing and advertising techniques to specifically attract a large crowd and create an environment of frenzy and mayhem and was otherwise careless, reckless and negligent."

International

TORONTO (AP) — Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper says an opposition plan to topple his government is a threat to Canada's democracy.

Harper vowed in a televised address to the nation Wednesday to use "every legal means" to stop the effort to replace his minority Conservative administration with an opposition-led coalition.

Three parties have united in opposition to Harper's handling of the economy, saying he has failed to present a plan for dealing with the global economic crisis.

A cabinet minister says that Harper will seek to suspend Parliament until next month — giving him time to develop a stimulus package.

...

MUMBAI, India (AP) — The only gunman captured during the terror attack on Mumbai says he was promised that his impoverished family would get \$1,250 if he died fighting for militant Islam, security officials said Wednesday.

The captive, 21-year-old Ajmal Amir Kasab, is from Faridkot village in the Punjab region of Pakistan, according to the two Indian officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss details gleaned during a week of interrogation.

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International

TO (AP) — Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's position plan to topple the government is a threat to Canada's democracy.

Harper was shown in a televised address on Wednesday to the nation "legal means" to stop the plan to place his minority Conservative administration with an unelected coalition.

Harper's handling of the crisis, saying he has failed to develop a plan for dealing with the economic crisis.

Harper's minister says that he will seek to suspend Parliament next month — giving the government a stimulus package.

AI, India (AP) — The Indian government captured during the attack on Mumbai says he was a terrorist. He was killed during the attack. His family would get \$1,250 if he was a terrorist. Officials said Wednesday.

He was 21-year-old Ajmal Amir Khan, from Faridkot village in Punjab region of Pakistan. He was killed during the attack on Mumbai. He was a terrorist. He was killed during the attack. His family would get \$1,250 if he was a terrorist. Officials said Wednesday.



Study flunks 49 states in college affordability

Justin Pope
ASSOCIATED PRESS

An independent report on American higher education flunks all but one state when it comes to affordability — an embarrassing verdict that is unlikely to improve as the economy contracts.

The biennial study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, which evaluates how well higher education is serving the public, handed out Fs for affordability to 49 states, up from 43 two years ago. Only California received a passing grade in the category, a C, thanks to its relatively inexpensive community colleges.

The report card uses a range of measurements to give states grades, from A to F, on the performance of their public and private colleges. The affordability grade is based on how much of the average family's income it costs to go to college.

Almost everywhere, that figure is up, according to the survey. Only two states — New York and Tennessee — have made even minimal improvements since 2000, but they're still considered to be failing. Everywhere else, families must fork over a greater percentage of their income to pay for college. In Illinois, the average cost attending a public four-year college has jumped from 19 percent of family's income in 1999-2000 to 35 percent in 2007-2008, and in Pennsylvania, from 29 percent to 41 percent.

Low-income families have been hardest hit. Nationally, enrollment at a local public college costs families in the top fifth of income just 9 percent of their earnings, while families from the bottom fifth pay 55 percent — up from 39 percent in 1999-2000.

And that's after accounting for financial aid, which is increasingly being used to lure high-achieving students who boost a school's reputation, but who don't need help to go to college.

The problem seems likely to worsen as the economy does, said Patrick Callan, the center's president.

Historically during downturns, "states make disproportionate cuts in higher education and, in return for the colleges taking them gracefully, allow them to raise tuition," Callan said. "If we handle this recession like we've handled others, we will see that this gets worse."

Scott Cristol of Columbia, Mo., said he wasn't surprised by the study's findings. Cristol, who has sent two daughters to college and has another two yet to pay for, said that he is trying to expand his business to help pay the tuition bills, but that it's been hard because of the slowing economy.

"We're going to play it by ear, be

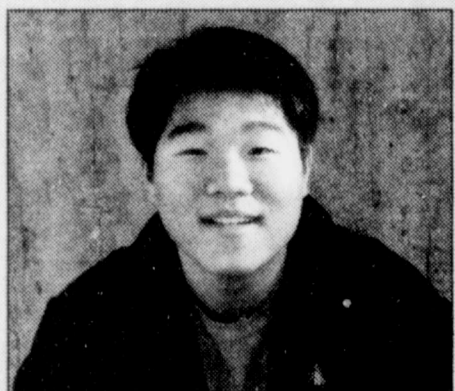
optimistic, hope for the best and just ride it out as best we can," Cristol said. "I think that's what everybody in America's doing right now."

States fared modestly better in other categories such as participation, where no state failed and about half the states earned As or Bs — comparable to the report two years ago. One reason for the uptick is that more students are taking rigorous college-prep courses, the study found. In Texas, for instance, the percentage of high schoolers taking at least one upper-level science course has nearly tripled from 20 percent to 56 percent.

But better preparation for college hasn't translated into better enrollment or completion, with only two states — Arizona and Iowa — receiving an A for participation in higher education.

WORD ON THE STREET

"Do you think 'dead week' is an appropriate name?"



"No, it doesn't seem like we are studying much and even teachers are procrastinating in terms of giving new material."

-David Wang, electrical engineering sophomore

"No, because we are in class learning new material. If they're going to call it dead week, we should have no class at all."

-Ashley Estacio, biology sophomore



"Yes, because the curriculum is done and there is not much left to learn."

-Ashlee Fleming, chemistry freshman

"No, because it's not dead; it's stressful."

-Jessica Pham, English sophomore



COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY ALEX KACIK

Nunez

continued from page 5

house" and "Let's show them how we do it in Sac-Town," according to the warrant.

Perez told police that Nunez and Rafael Garcia did most of the talking. Garcia, Ryan Jett and Leshanor Thomas, all 19, face the same charges as Nunez.

The four left the apartment and later encountered a group of men leaving a fraternity party about 2 a.m. Two of the stabbing victims interviewed in the hospital told police they were challenged to a fight. Their assailants called them "punks" and other names.

"They were walking down the street, there was a verbal exchange. It escalated into a physical altercation and eventually into the stabbing," San Diego Police Capt. Jim Collins said.

A felony complaint filed in San Diego County Superior Court said the defendants used a knife or multiple knives to stab the four men. Luis Santos, a 22-year-old

student at San Diego Mesa College, died at the scene. The stab wound "sliced through the bottom of his heart," according to the arrest warrant.

"We're not going to go into the details of each one of them, but they all acted in concert," Collins said.

Police had not recovered any weapons. It was unclear how many knives were used in the attack, but the arrest warrant quotes a witness as saying Nunez and Jett tried to hide the knives and destroy other evidence.

One of the defendants, Thomas, told investigators the group went to a friend's home in San Diego after the confrontation. He saw one of the men cleaning the knives while Jett and Nunez washed clothes in the kitchen sink. They then put the clothes in a plastic bag, which Thomas thought they brought back to Sacramento, according to the

warrant.

A friend on the trip who was not charged says he went with Esteban Nunez and Jett to a spot along the Sacramento River near Nunez apartment. The friend, John Murray, told police the two placed knives in a plastic shopping bag and prepared to burn a shirt and a hat. They had filled a plastic cup with gasoline at 7-Eleven, according to the warrant.

"They had a hat and a shirt they burned and they had their knives in a bag," Murray told investigators. "I walked back to my car and said 'You guys do what you have to do.'"

Murray said he didn't actually see any items catch fire.

Police said they traced the suspects to Sacramento almost immediately based on witness accounts in San Diego. Detectives had searched the Northern California homes of all four suspects about a week after the October stabbing.

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Still in town for the holidays?

Take advantage of San Luis Obispo's top 10 holiday activities

Samantha MacConnell
MUSTANG DAILY

The holidays are upon us and for many that means leaving San Luis Obispo to spend Christmas at home with family and friends. However, for those who are staying in the area, San Luis Obispo offers a wide variety of activities and events for everyone to participate in this holiday season.

Santa's House

In an effort to make downtown San Luis Obispo holiday friendly and inviting for holiday shoppers, Santa's House gives people a chance to take photos with Santa Claus. Located in downtown's Mission Plaza, Santa's House is open every day until Christmas Eve.



2. The 33rd Annual Holiday Parade

Court Street presents Silver Bells, the annual holiday parade that begins Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. on Dec. 5. The annual holiday parade will bring the community together starting at the Palm and Chorro streets intersection and ending between Nipomo and Monterey Street.

3. Cal Poly Choirs' "A Christmas Celebration" at the PAC

The Cal Poly Music Department presents Cal Poly Choirs' "A Christmas Celebration" at the Christopher Cohan Performing Arts Center Saturday, Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. Composed by Cal Poly music professor Mer-

SAMANTHA MACCONNELL MUSTANG DAILY

continued on page 9

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Mon-Thurs: 4:15, 6:45

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Fri: 4:15, 7:00, 9:15
Sat: 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15
Sun: 1:30, 4:15, 7:00
Mon-Thurs: 4:15, 7:00

IOUSA (NR)
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edith Brammeier, the show will feature carols from around the world and a guest appearance by the Cal Poly Brass Ensemble.

4. Holiday in the Plaza Art and Craft Fair

The City of San Luis Obispo Parks and Recreation Department will host the Holiday in the Plaza Art and Craft Fair Saturday, Dec. 6, beginning at 9 a.m. in downtown's Mission Plaza. More than 40 local craftspeople will be displaying their homemade items. Musical entertainment will be provided as customers shop for the holiday season.

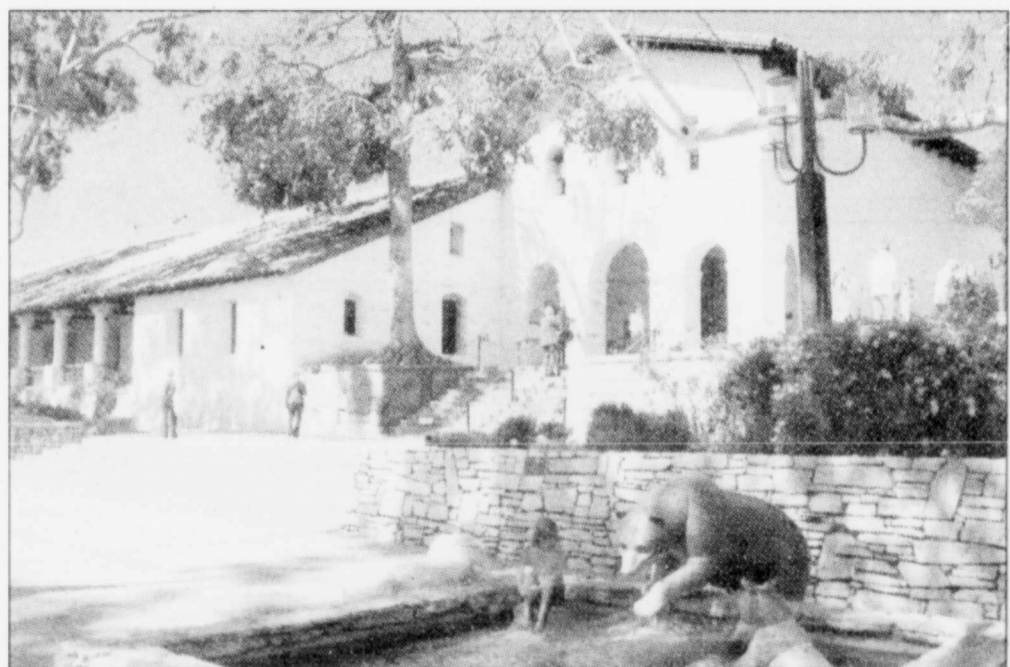
5. Hearst Castle Holiday Feast



COURTESY PHOTO

At a price of \$1,000 per person, attending the Hearst Castle Holiday Feast would be the splurge of the century. On Dec. 6, a limousine will take you and your party to the castle to join 88 other guests. Guests will dine in the Refectory for an elegant, multi-course dinner, which will include fine wine of the central coast. Live holiday music will be provided and each guest will receive a one-of-a-kind gift inspired by the castle.

6. Classic Carousel in Mission Plaza



COURTESY PHOTO

From Dec. 8 through the 28th, a magical carousel will delight San Luis Obispo natives and tourists alike in downtown's Mission Plaza. It usually opens at 10 a.m., but hours vary. Be sure to visit www.downtownslo.com for a complete carousel schedule.

7. Donate to those in need

The holidays are a time for giving and when those in need call for help, there is nothing better than donating to save their Christmas spirit. The Salvation Army is one of the many aid groups raising money for food, clothes and housing this holiday season. The San Luis Obispo station holds an annual Christmas dinner and raised approximately \$44,000 last year.

8. Free Movie at Downtown Centre Cinemas

Get yourself in the Christmas spirit and come to a screening of Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," free with one non-perishable food item or a \$2 donation. The film begins at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Downtown Centre Theatre. All donations will go to the Food Bank Coalition of SLO County.

9. The Nutcracker and Sugar Plum Tea Party at the PAC

The Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo presents "The Nutcracker" at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 13 and 14 with performances at 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday's performance will be at 6 p.m. A production for more than 30 years, it will dazzle of all ages.

Sugar Plum Tea Party, an exclusive tea party with the Sugar Plum Fairy and her friends, will show at the Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. Photo opportunities will be available. Seating is limited so ticket reservations are highly encouraged.

10. The 2nd Annual '60s Rock 'n' Roll New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance Party

Ring in the new year at the New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance Party, which includes a buffet dinner, dance contest, door prizes, party hats and favors and a midnight champagne toast. Music will be provided by Unfinished Business. The event will be held on Dec. 31 at St. Patrick's School Events Center in Arroyo Grande. Doors open at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. and dancing from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. Tickets cost \$60.

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Hipster Bullshit by Graham Culbertson

Out of the cupboard and onto the airways: Page France makes reappearance

KCPR has officially turned 40. And while there's a bunch of nostalgic bullshit we could hash, perhaps the most important thing is the forgotten gems that KCPR holds that inspire a certain cool geekdom. Each week, we add 10 to 20 albums and one or two you find are completely brilliant and you watch as they never catch on and fade into the background. But they always stay in the station, locked up in some back cabinet. In honor of these albums, I have decided to review my first find: Page France's 2005 release "Hello, Dear Wind."

"Hello, Dear Wind" is the band's second release and the first that gave it a modest following that would propel the band to a bigger label for a third and final release. The follow-up "...and the Family Telephone" almost made the band proper "indie famous," but then they dissolved, with mastermind Michael Nau forming

the band "The Cotton Jones Basket Ride." The band got thrown into the "good" Christian Pop bin with Danielson and Sufjan Stevens, but that was all wrong and always seemed to be a hindrance. "Hello, Dear Wind" is a majestic indie pop album that centers on the end times as a way of penetrating a post-college malaise and providing optimism.

Jesus comes. Bushes burn. And bodies turn to dust and mingle together in finality. The album focuses so heavily on religious symbolism that it moves back and forth between unforgivingly devout to heretical. Like "The Last Temptation of Christ" or Jose Saramago's "The Gospel According to Jesus Christ," it avoids what is acceptable on both sides in favor of greater truths. Nau portrays young held down lovers as the downtrodden faithful looking forward to the apocalypse when they can truly be happy.

On "Jesus," Nau sings a song of happiness to another person, most likely a lover, that leads to images of religious happiness and perfection as trees song and Jesus dances and drinks wine. In "Dogs," he sings to a lover about the times after the troubles of the world and the people that treat them like dogs. Rather than promising a house and independent life, Nau dreams bigger saying: "Darling, I don't know what happens when everything here ends / But I hope it's like they say and I hope it never ends." Nau speaks warmly and the production is intimate building on the naked shaky moments of lovers until he declares that they were made out of each other's dust and will fly out as particles in the wind.

The album works because it extends itself beyond sappy perfect dreams by replacing them with the biggest deus ex machina: the return of Jesus to set everything right and the entry to heaven. It's

endearing because Nau sings with devout love that tells us even if his dreams of the end times aren't true then at least his religious fervor, for once, proves some kind of love. The album ends with Nau declaring "we will become a happy ending" and it feels warm and gushy rather than severe and misguided as coming from a preacher. Somehow when it's about our relationships and about love, we all want to believe these things while perhaps on a greater spiritual level we don't need to.

"Hello, Dear Wind" got a good amount of plays when it came out, but now its abandoned to the back of the bin and the most anybody really knows is its follow-up. Thankfully, KCPR is around to at the least introduce a few DJs to this album for a few weeks and that gives the station more validation as an entity than any other sort of self-righteous ironic hipster shit you might hear.

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Mustang Daily

"There's nothing dirty about those dreams.
They happen."

MUSTANG DAILY OPINION/EDITORIAL

Thursday, December 4, 2008

Editor in chief: Marlice van Romburgh
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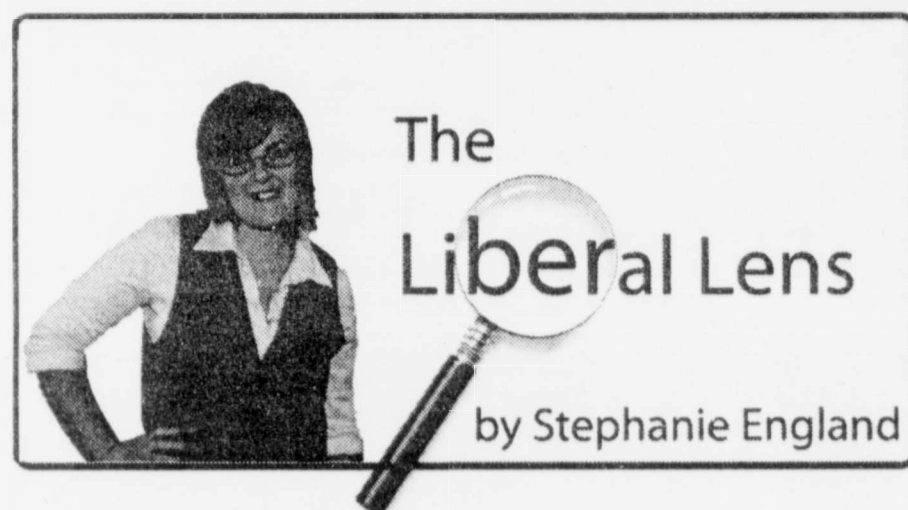
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12

political column

Economic distress is opportune time to bridge political divide



What is politics? Is it about colors — blue, red, purple? Is it about giving money to the poor or giving money to the rich? Is it about abortion? Gay rights? Is it about making your voice heard every four years? Is it about the great political divide? Or debate?

Our generation has seen ideology dominate political thought. Politicians have become more concerned with proving the veracity of an agenda than with making the world a better place and expanding the horizons of average citizens, and our government has suffered. Americans' perception of government has been tainted, and our worlds have become small.

The truth is that my political persuasion as a liberal has (almost) as many flaws as the conservative persuasion. With a little introspection and simple objectivity, I think that is clear. The far left's views of total regulation are just as ridiculous as the right's views of deregulation. Neither view will fix our economic problems. The best proposals lay somewhere between those two extremes.

I see this time in America as historic. This is a time of creation and renewal — even in the midst of this recession. And in January we will finally have a president conscious of the significance of the com-

ing years and aware that the challenges we face are not hardships but opportunities to shape the future.

President-elect Obama met with governors from blue states and red states to discuss their economic challenges on Tuesday. Governor Schwarzenegger was there, and I hope he was listening. California is currently facing a dire financial crisis and education is again

on the cutting block.

The Associated Press reports that among the Governor's and Democrats' proposals to relieve some of California's financial problems is to "Reduce K-12 education funding by \$2.5 billion and funding for the University of California and California State University systems by \$132 million." That is unacceptable.

Instead, I think California should raise the license registration fee at the DMV to 2 percent of the vehicle's value — the very suggestion that sealed former Governor Gray Davis' political demise. We should also revoke state legislators' 6 percent pay raise from last year and the recent pay hikes of 214 Capitol staffers as reported in the Sacramento Bee on Monday.

Our legislators should vote to cut the Governor's \$212,179 salary and the Lt. Governor's \$159,134 salary, as reported by the California Department of Personnel Administration. I agree with my conservative counterparts that government is getting too expensive. I also think this is the perfect time for closing those ever-elusive corporate tax loopholes, a favorite talk-

ing point of politicians. Wouldn't it be nice if we actually accomplished it?

Regardless of the final budget decisions on these matters, legislators need to leave education alone. Of all the state funded programs, education is the most important. It's the only hope America has for the future and it's the great leveler of our society. I would also argue that education isn't fully funded right now — forget the proposed cuts.

But instead of reflecting on this pressing budget crisis, our state legislators are haggling over ideology. The AP reports that Democrats have proposed to combine cutting programs with raising taxes at a dollar for dollar ratio. But Republicans have vowed never to vote for a tax increase.

Republican minority leader Mike Villines said, "This is not blind ideology on the part of Republicans, but our sincere belief that higher taxes will hurt the economy and lead to more uncontrolled spending."

The gentleman doth protest too much, methinks. A combination of conservative and liberal ideas — that is, cutting programs and raising taxes — is the only way California is going to end this financial crisis. Raising taxes and keeping programs the same makes no sense, and neither does cutting programs and keeping taxes the same.

Both of these options would generate minimal state revenue. Therefore, Republicans must be standing on the quicksand of their ideology. At least Democrats are willing to bend and cut some programs for the sake of the state.

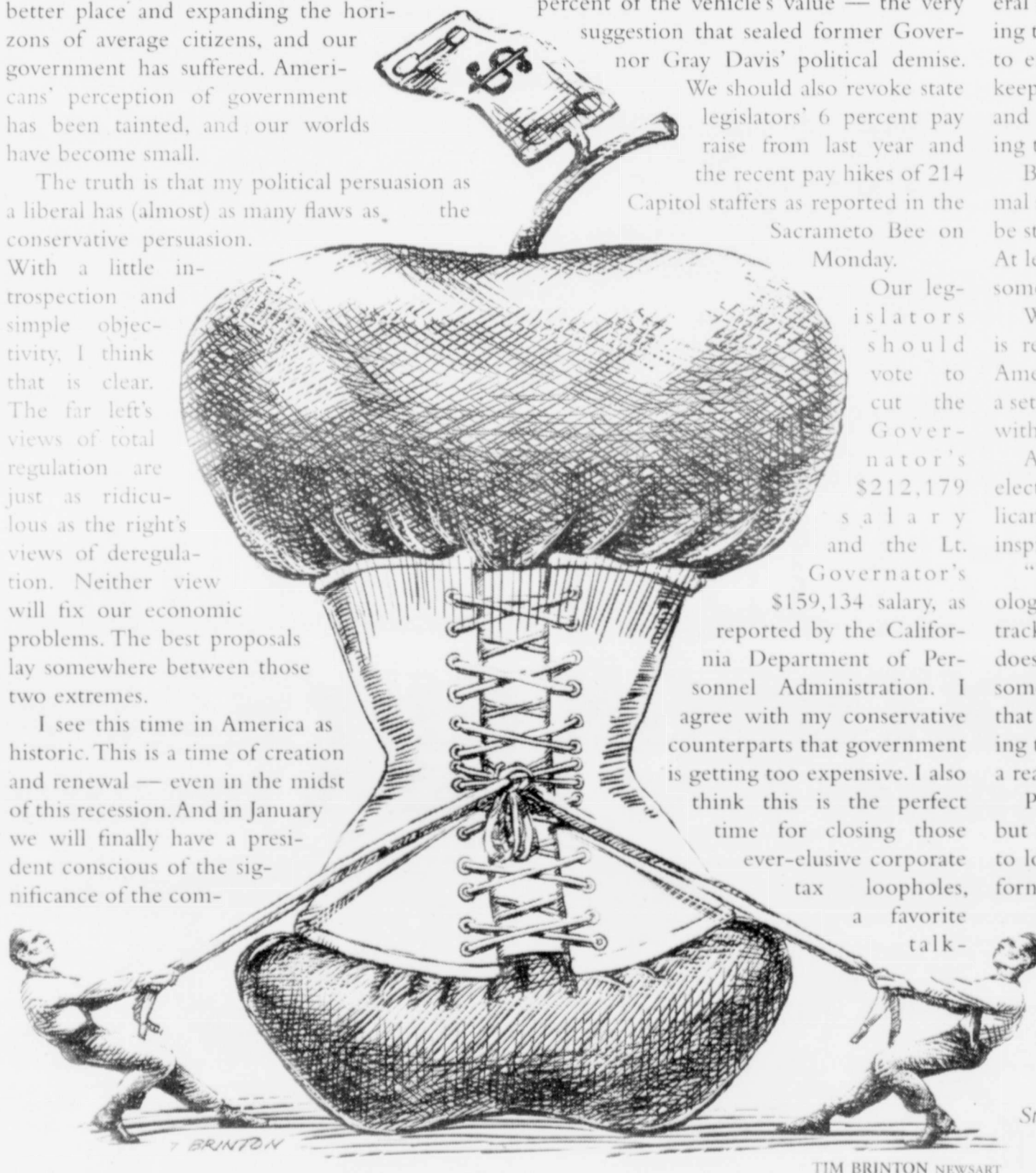
What is happening in our state legislature is representative of what we don't need in America anymore — an ignorant adherence to a set of foolish ideas. It's juvenile roughhousing with issues of great importance.

At Tuesday's governors summit, President-elect Obama made brief remarks to Republicans about the political system he wants to inspire instead.

"We are not going to be hampered by ideology in trying to get this country back on track. We want to figure out what works. That doesn't mean that we're not going to have some disagreements, but what it does mean is that if you can show me something you are doing that's working... then you're going to have a ready ear," he said.

Politics represent what is possible in society, but our rhetoric has been dominated for far too long by rigid ideology. The only way California will pass the budget and America will climb out of this recession is by bridging the great political divide and trying out new ideas — irreverent of political ideology, and these precarious times have provided the perfect laboratory for experimenting.

Stephanie England is an English junior and a Mustang Daily political columnist.



have something to say?

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Conservatism: the ideology of individual responsibility

I read the papers and Web sites. I listen to the radio programs and watch the TV commentators. And I am disappointed and shocked at the state of complacency in this nation.

I have in recent years been desensitized to this stupidity, because it kept happening. I was hoping people would wake up and welcome reality, but apparently many of you need a bucket of cold water thrown in your face.

A line must be drawn, and I hope it starts with this column.

I write in response to a growing sentiment that many have that the government must solve all our problems and be our provider. These days we want the government to provide us with free healthcare, free schooling and free homes. If we have a failing business, we want a government bailout. If we have a bad loan, we want loan forgiveness or restructuring. We want the "rich" to do everything for us. We have gotten to a point where we want the government to make all our decisions.

What happened to personal responsibility? What happened to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

When did we become a people willing to give up our

liberties and freedoms to our elected officials?

This was once a government of the people, by the people, for the people. Now it has turned into a government that takes from hardworking citizens and caters to lazy, greedy, slothful takers. I am tired of people thinking that they have an inborn entitlement from the government to provide for them at the moment of citizenship or crossing of our borders. America was founded as a land of opportunity, not a land of giving; a land where, if you work hard, you will succeed.

On Tuesday, business senior Everett Lawson wrote a letter to the Mustang Daily explaining why he can't be a Republican. He wrote, "At the base of liberalism are the views that we should focus

on taking care of one another and our planet (i.e. national health care and sustainable practices), while the conservative base is focused on taking care of 'yourself' (low taxes), 'your own'

- Alexander Fraser Tytler,
Lord Woodhouselee

your assumptions of what a conservative is. For one thing, there is a difference between conservative and Republican. While conservatives are frequently Republicans, not all Republicans are conservative. Some conservatives are only socially or fiscally conservative. President Bush, for example, while

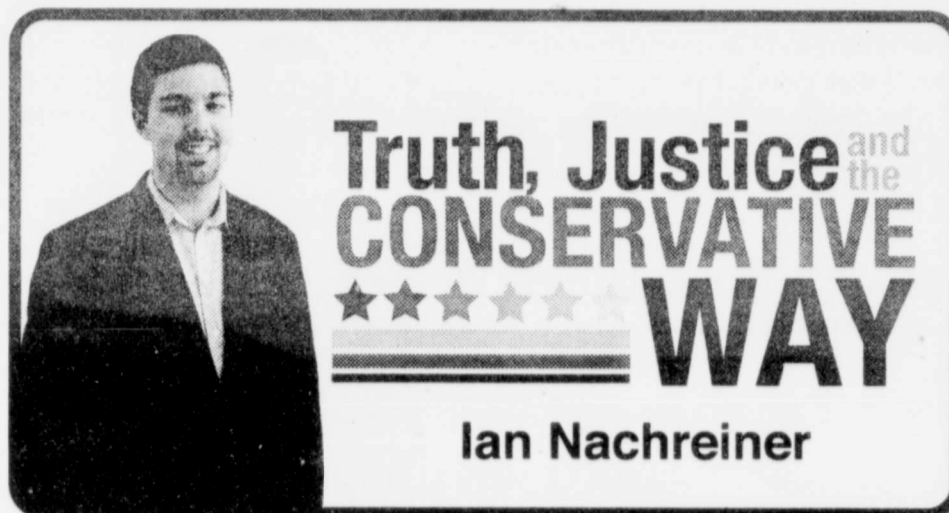
socially conservative is only a fiscal moderate at best. Sure, he lowered taxes, but was a drunken sailor when it came to spending.

Mr. Lawson, you say, "taking care of one another and our planet" is at the core of the liberal base. This is patently wrong! For decades liberals have been seeking the subjugation of minorities to maintain a voting base. Welfare, food stamps, rent control, and other forms of government assistance encourage low-income people, commonly minorities in large cities, to take from the government and not further themselves. Liberals commonly support affirmative action, a philosophy that puts race above the content of one's character.

Conservatives are not the nasty, mean, cruel, callous, heartless, people some make us out to be. We care about personal enrichment and the value of living a good decent life. However, conservatives believe it is the individual not the government who is responsible for furthering one's life.

Good Ol' Uncle Sam is not supposed to actually be our uncle, fulfilling our every whim each election cycle. Conservatives care, but feel that the role of government should be limited. When it comes to charity, liberals are just a lot of talk, while those evil "rich" conservatives frequently contribute to charities. Liberals, meanwhile, expect the government to take care of it.

While liberals commonly support national, government-controlled health care, conservatives reject this notion. Not because we don't believe people should have access, but because conservatives believe in the freedom to choose doctors and health care coverage. For an ideology that preaches the freedom to choose when it comes to abortion, it is ironic that liberals reject the freedom to choose health care. Government is the worst manager of resources, with the exception of the military. I point to the shining example of education. In Cali-



fornia, we spend more than \$8,500 per K-12 student and increase funding annually as mandated by the state constitution. Yet we as a state rank 47th in the nation.

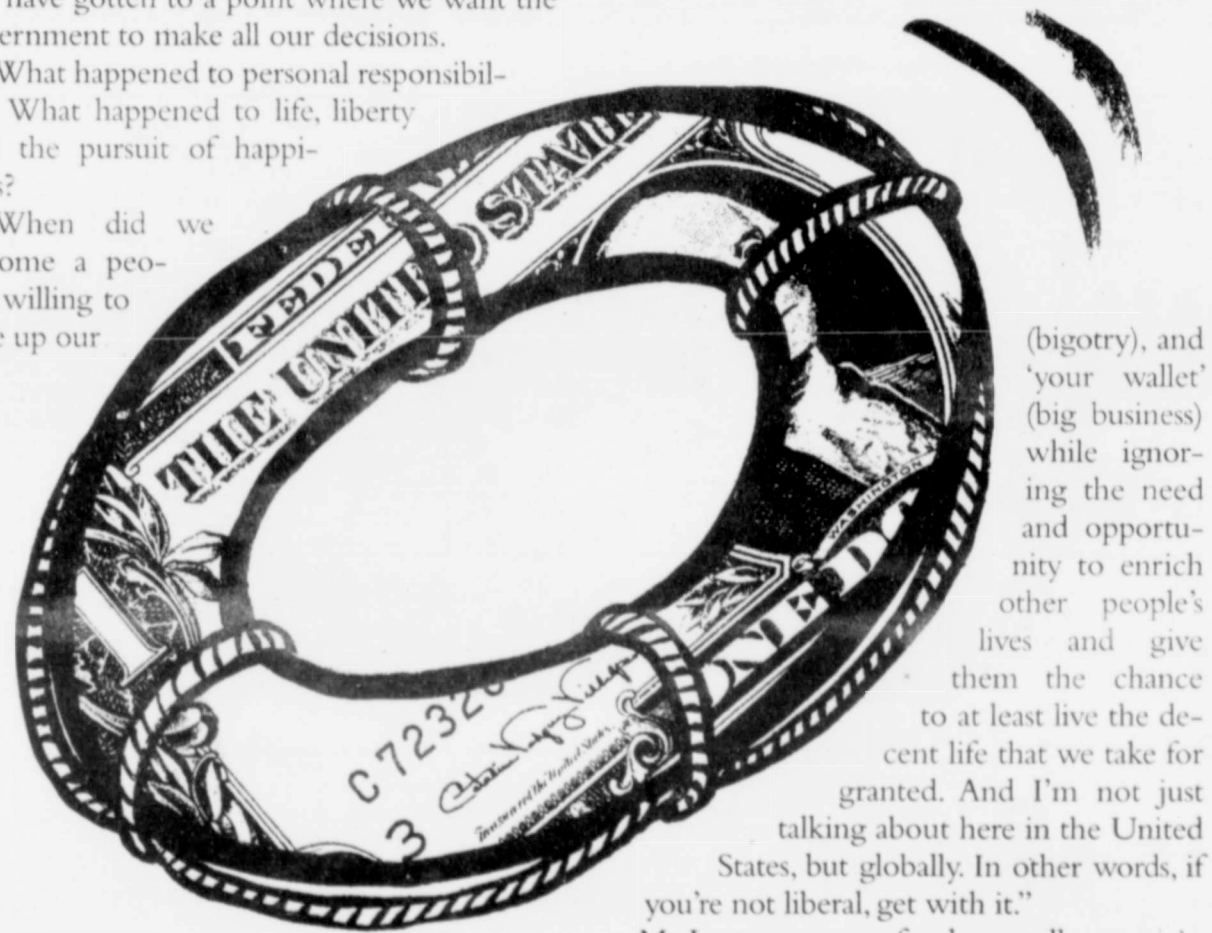
Conservatives believe in stewardship of the land, not complete disuse and protectionism. Especially when such disuse is commonly tied to global warming, an unproven theory supported by Hollywood and liberal elites to maintain a state of fear and enrich their own pocketbooks with the green industries they've invested in.

Conservatives believe in low taxes and business opportunities, not because of greed, but because they believe in personal responsibility. When the government taxes you it is your blood, sweat and tears that makes that payment. The government did nothing other than take from your efforts to provide for yourself.

On the issue of taking care of what Mr. Everett calls "your own" (bigotry) not only am I perplexed by this association, I am offended. Bigotry has a serious meaning and to throw such words around is reckless. Bigotry is not something exclusive to a single party, ideology, race, creed, or orientation.

As the Obama administration comes into power, consider where this nation is going with each new program and expansion of government control on your life. If we continue to expand and redistribute resources we will continue to enable masses of people who want something from the government. What we need is a government that says no, and a government willing to let businesses fail, rather than bailing them out, a government willing to let people learn from their mistakes when they got into loans they could not afford. We need a government that promotes personal responsibility so we may grow and prosper together as one nation.

Ian Nachreiner is an agricultural science senior and a Mustang Daily Columnist.



BARRIE MAGUIRE NEWSART



I hope that if this truly was a fraternity event, that SAE fully takes the blame, and not uses excuses to get out of this without proper punishment.

This is truly sad to see this happen and my thoughts go out to Carson's friends and family.

— Anonymous

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

This is a very sad situation for Cal Poly and the entire Greek System. Unfortunately, it is another blemish to the reputation of fraternities.

I hope the University looks at this as a isolated incident and will not punish the entire Greek System.

- Cal Poly Alumnus 2000
- Greek Member Alumnus

— Roy

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

I am so saddened to hear about Carson. He was a good friend of mine, and I can't believe his life was ended so short because of a fraternity "meeting." Coming to Cal Poly, Carson never even planned to join a frat. He was a funny, smart, athletic, and happy guy. He had so much going for him, and now his life is over. I truly hope this becomes an eye opener for everyone at Cal Poly.

— Claire

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

am so saddened to hear about This is such a tragic situation. It is sad to think what fun at a college party could lead to. I just hope and wish the fraternity was not pushing him, because no one should be pushed at that kind of extent. My heart goes to the family and friends, they will all need strength.

— Renee

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

First let me say that I am in a fraternity. Because of this I went through the meeting about hazing and alcohol poisoning. One cannot go through that seminar and watch the video about the boy who was forced to drink too much and died and not think about what if that was you. Think about all the people who would

be affected, here and home, friends, family, and co-workers. Pledging here, I was forced to drink and it wasn't the greatest experience. I never really thought much about it.

Now I realize that if anyone's judgment who watched me was flawed, I could be that kid. I would be dead. There is something terribly wrong with fraternities. It's a sad oxymoron. They force people to their limits and bring out qualities that otherwise would not be present. Yet they choose whom to give bids to based on their personal qualities. Personally, if this ever happens again, there is a large chance I may just pack up and leave Greek life. I'd rather not be part of a society that's responsible for death. Right now the greek system and everyone else needs to think of Carson.

It is truly horrid that this can still happen.w

— Anonymous

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

Finger pointing will not take any of the pain away that has been cast upon Carson's parents and brother as well as his many friends and family. Time will pass and punishments will be made but as the days and months and years go by Carson's family will still be wondering..... wishing he was here. The world has lost a precious soul and we need to pray for some kind of relief for those who will miss him the most.....his Mom....his Dad....his brother

— Anonymous

Response to "Poly freshman dead after party"

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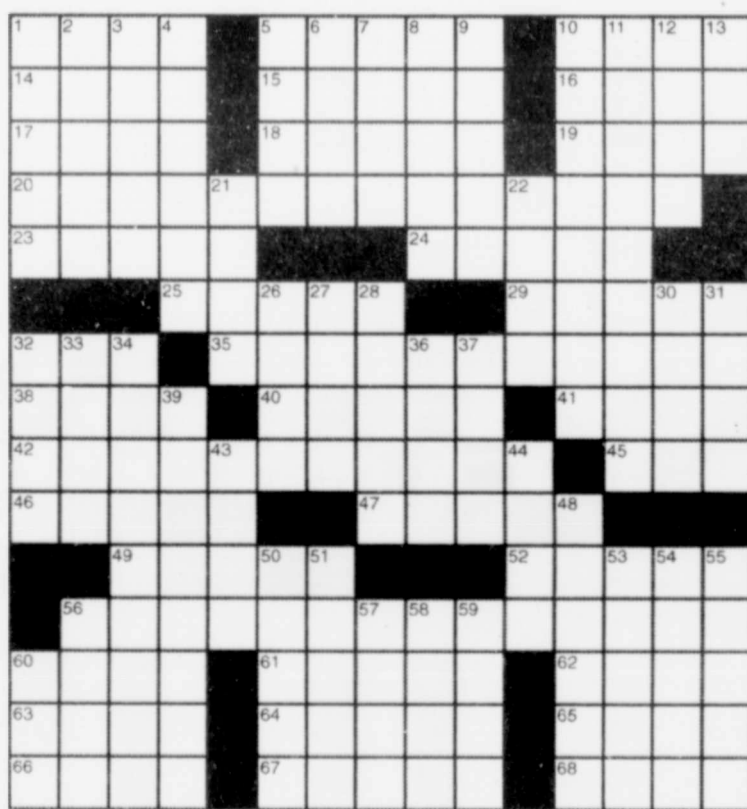
Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



- Across**
- 1 Fruit variety with a sweet-spiced flavor
 - 5 Parents
 - 10 Patron saint of sailors
 - 14 ___ Arena (Kings' home)
 - 15 Godspeed
 - 16 Geological range
 - 17 Uruguay and Paraguay
 - 18 Yosemite rock features
 - 19 Money bigwigs, for short
 - 20 So-called "fox fires"
 - 23 Three-time P.G.A. Championship winner
 - 24 Intl. org. dismantled in 1977
 - 25 Penicillin target
 - 29 Infuriated
 - 32 Outdoor cooking spot
 - 35 Recording device
 - 38 Having shipped out
 - 40 Elan
 - 41 "In principio ___ Verbum"
 - 42 Certain lawsuit
 - 45 Tampa-to-Fort Myers dir.
 - 46 Mother ___
 - 47 Kitchen gadget brand
 - 49 Who's creator
 - 52 List in an insurance report, maybe
 - 56 What the ends of 20-, 35- and 42-Across are, collectively
 - 60 ___ Sailor, three-time 1956 skiing gold medalist
 - 61 "See, how she leans her cheek upon her hand!" speaker
 - 62 B.C. neighbor
 - 63 Big area of philanthropy, with "the"
 - 64 "Mi chiamano Mimi" and others
 - 65 Resting place
 - 66 Reassuring words after an accident
 - 67 Big city newspaper desk
 - 68 Car radio mode
- Down**
- 1 Stock holders
 - 2 Night sky feature
 - 3 Get the point?
 - 4 Longtime NBC Olympics host
 - 5 Wane
 - 6 Repute
 - 7 Represent by drawing
 - 8 Falls (over)
 - 9 "Wake Up Little ___"
 - 10 On every single occasion
 - 11 Take-home?
 - 12 Calls to farmers
 - 13 Carry-___
 - 21 Modern show shower
 - 22 Certain ballroom event
 - 26 European capital
 - 27 Cabinet dept.
 - 28 Penne topper
 - 30 S&L offerings
 - 31 November 4, e.g.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	O	S	M	O	A	M	E	R	C	S	T
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P	L	A	N	E	T	A	R	I	U	M	N
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M	E	A	L		D	A	R	K	E	S	T
T	E	A	M	S	O	F	H	O	R	S	E
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C	U	T		A	M	A	Z	O	H	R	I
O	A	R		T	A	S	E	R		I	N
S	L	Y		M	E	T	S		A	G	R
E	E										E



Puzzle by Chuck Hamilton

- 32 A sergeant might ask soldiers to pick it up
- 33 Española, for one
- 34 Lambastes
- 36 Johnny with the 1958 hit "Willie and the Hand Jive"
- 37 Codger
- 39 Record follower, at times
- 43 "Leaving Las Vegas" actress
- 44 ___ Point Lighthouse, Massachusetts landmark since 1838
- 48 Detox centers
- 50 "Hit the road!"
- 51 Stock holder
- 53 "I mean it!"
- 54 Socratic student
- 55 Desolate
- 56 R.A.'s place
- 57 Rule out
- 58 Parent
- 59 Blah
- 60 James Clavell's "___-Pan"

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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su | do | ku

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	9	6		8	2		3
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		2					
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9							5
	1		5	7		8	
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	6						9
7			4	9		5	6

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Novachkovs

continued from page 16

He chose Cal Poly because of its coaches and environment. The beach, he says, was a big attraction, and he and teammates go surfing every other day.

"I just love it down here," Filip says. "I like everything about the Cal Poly wrestling team. I like the coaches, the guys on the team — we have a great program right now."

Cal Poly coaches reciprocate that appreciation.

"He's an awesome athlete and an awesome wrestler," Mustangs head coach John Azevedo says. "He's one of the best I've ever seen as far as his wrestling athleticism and mat awareness."

Henson couldn't agree more.

"He's a great athlete; he has unbelievable talent," he adds. "Coaches love him because he not only excites the fans, but he generally wins and he usually does something extraordinary to make it happen."

Filip used to play soccer, too, but a previous coach made him choose one or the other, and he wasn't ready to give up wrestling.

"What I like the most is that it's the oldest sport ever, and when you go out, you're pretty much by yourself," Filip says. "You don't rely on anyone else; you go out and compete for yourself."

Filip, known as the quieter of the two, says he used to look up to a Bulgarian champion, but now he admires his coaches most.

"He's got a great, competitive heart," Azevedo says.

Boris says it's as if his brother "flips

a switch" when he gets on the mat.

"He's nice off the mat, but he can be pretty mean on the mat," Boris says. "Especially against me, he gets really aggressive. He definitely has a different personality."

Last year, Filip beat Hofstra's Lou Ruggirello, then the country's top-ranked 133-pounder, 6-3 in Las Vegas.

"I told Filip from day one I think he can do anything," Henson says. "I think the sky's the limit for him."

Boris, who in high school was a two-time national freestyle champion and a two-time Greco-Roman national champion, followed Filip to San Luis Obispo just a year later.

The two regularly practice against each other, something everyone seems to agree is beneficial to both.

"I'd say Boris is one of the best workout partners for me," Filip says. "We got to wrestle (in practice) once in a while, but now that he's redshirting, he's going to have more time. It's really going to help me throughout the whole year."

Boris agrees, adding that their relationship as siblings only makes them better.

"If I see him do good at wrestling tournaments, it motivates me, and I'm pretty sure he feels the same way," Boris says.

Boris says that when he learns a new move, he'll immediately show Filip and they'll work on the technique together. He says Filip does the same for him.

"If one does better than the other, I think they generally want to outdo each other," Henson says. "It influences them, in a way. They're in an individual sport, so if one wins a tournament, the other wants to win."

men's basketball | CAL POLY 61, SAN FRANCISCO 40

Cal Poly defense stifles San Francisco

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

The Cal Poly men's basketball team defeated San Francisco 61-40 in Mott Gym on Wednesday night.

The Mustangs defense held San Francisco to just 24.6-percent shooting from the floor, a season low.

Cal Poly never trailed, as senior guard Trae Clark hit two 3-pointers in the opening two minutes and junior guard Lorenzo Keeler added another to push the Mustangs out to an early advantage.

While Cal Poly (2-4) was hitting 34.8 percent of its 3-point attempts, the Dons (5-3) had an abysmal night behind the arc, shooting just 1-of-20.

Clark finished with 14 points on

4-of-5 shooting from 3-point range. Clark was joined in double figures by Keeler's 13 points and by sophomore guard Shawn Lewis' 10.

The Mustangs also won the turnover battle, committing just nine turnovers to 17 for San Francisco.

Trailing 29-18 at halftime, the Dons were able to get Cal Poly's lead into single digits but never seriously challenged.

Sophomore forward Wes Dipprey had a game-high 10 rebounds for Cal Poly, which was outrebounded 47-44. Cal Poly returns to action at 7 p.m. Dec. 14 against Seattle in Mott Gym.

For a complete recap, please see the Mustang Daily's Web site at mustangdaily.net.

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7	4	2	6	5	3	9	8	1
6	5	8	2	1	9	4	7	3
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1	8	9	7	6	5	3	4	2
4	6	5	3	2	8	1	9	7
2	7	3	4	9	1	5	6	8

THIS WEEK IN CAL POLY ATHLETICS



CAL POLY MUSTANGS

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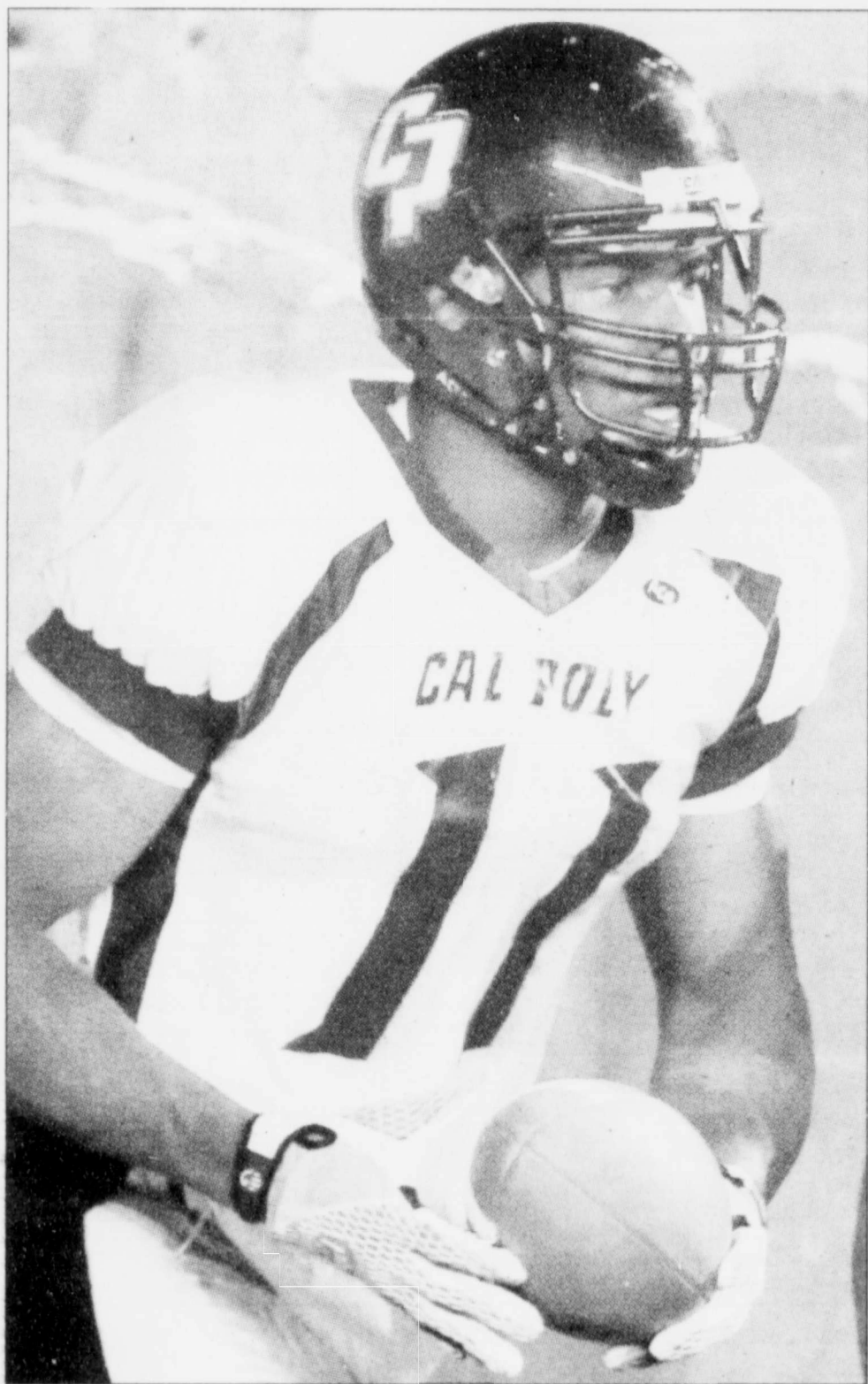
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WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

Firestone to commemorate Barden



ANDREW SANTOS-JOHNSON MUSTANG DAILY

Cal Poly senior receiver Ramses Barden, shown after catching a 25-yard touchdown pass at Wisconsin on Nov. 22, scored on a reception in all 11 of the Mustangs' games this season, tying the all-time Football Championship Subdivision record held by Randy Moss.

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

For four years, the No. 11 Cal Poly football jersey has been a frightful sight for those facing it.

It was worn by 6-foot-6, All-American receiver Ramses Barden, who set Cal Poly career records for catches (206), yards (4,203) and touchdowns (50).

But he didn't stop rewriting records at just the school level.

Barden, whose college career ended Saturday, recently broke Larry Fitzgerald's all-time NCAA record for consecutive games with a touchdown catch (20) and tied Randy Moss' all-time Football Championship Subdivision standard of single-season consecutive games with such a reception (11).

Now, instead of an ominous sight to defensive backs, his uniform will be immortalized as a reminder of his accomplishments.

Barden's No. 11 will be hung at Firestone Grill at 7 tonight, former Cal Poly star receiver Darrell Jones said Wednesday.

Monday, Barden finished fourth in the voting for the Walter Payton Award, which is given to the FCS' best offensive player.

He'll play in the East-West Shrine Game in Houston on Jan. 17 on ESPN2, in preparation for the NFL Draft scouting combine in Indianapolis from Feb. 18-24.

Other Cal Poly alumni whose jerseys adorn the walls of the grill include Professional Football Hall of Famer John Madden, National Baseball Hall of Famer Ozzie Smith and former Major League Baseball All-Star Mike Krukow.

— Donovan Aird

wrestling Bulgarian brothers making a name at Cal Poly

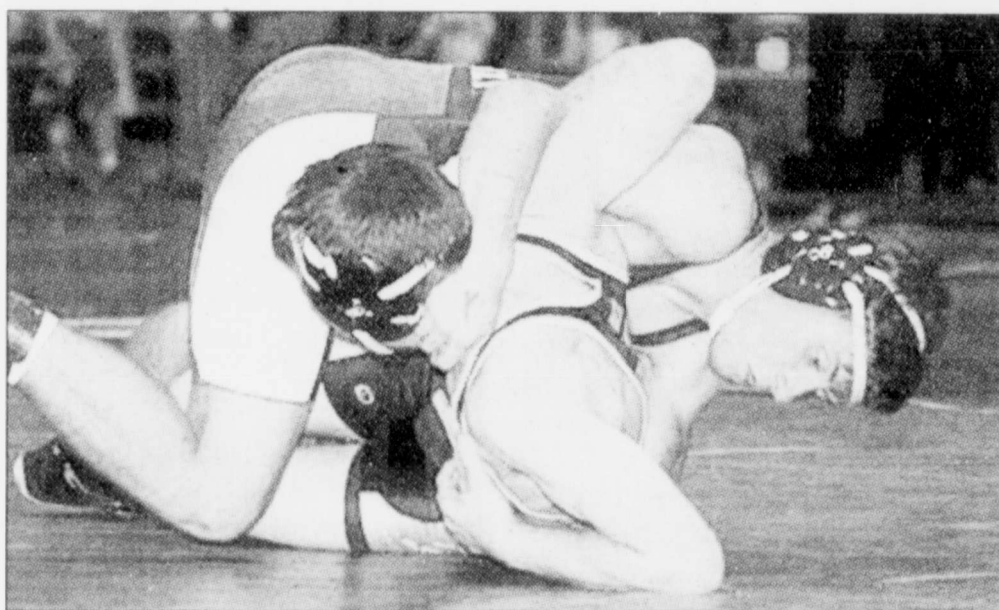


PHOTO COURTESY OF CAL POLY ATHLETICS

Cal Poly's Filip Novachkov (top) went 16-10 as a redshirt freshman at 133 pounds last season. This year, he's moved up to 141.

Alisha Axsom

MUSTANG DAILY

New sneakers may not be the first thing to come to mind in wrestling, but for Filip Novachkov, it's the story of how he eventually became involved with the sport.

"It wasn't necessarily something I chose," he says. "It's actually a funny story. My (younger) brother Boris started wrestling before me. The reason he joined the wrestling team was because a kid in his class showed up with a pair of brand-new sneakers."

When Boris asked where the kid had gotten the new shoes, his classmate answered that they were given out at wrestling practice. Boris joined immediately, and Filip followed suit a couple months later.

"He'd pretty much beat my butt every time, and it was frustrating for me, so this was a way I could get back at him," Filip says.

It might seem like a typical American story, but Filip and his brother are from Bulgaria.

They moved with their parents — Stepah and Zhivka — to Sunnyvale about five years ago because their father had friends there who were from Bulgaria.

Now, they both wrestle at Cal Poly, which will compete at the Las Vegas Invitational on Friday and Saturday.

Last year, Filip, as a redshirt freshman, went 16-10 at 133 pounds, including four wins against top-20 opponents.

Because Boris is redshirting this season, coaches thought it would be a good idea for Filip to take his spot at 141.

This year, after making that transition, Filip pinned Joaquin Carlos of San Francisco State in two minutes and 19 seconds and won the Missouri Open by posting a 12-0 win over Indianapolis' Irwin Matt, pinning Eric Graham in 1:09, topping Hofstra's Justin Accordino 6-2 and upsetting 17th-ranked Ryan Prater of Illinois 9-8.

"He showed perseverance," Mustangs assistant coach Sammie Henson says. "He showed he can win a tournament and be a champion in a tough, tough weight class. That's a

big sign, especially this early in the season."

Boris was 19-12 as a true freshman last season, when at the Pac-10 Conference Championships he upset top seed T.J. Dillashaw of Cal State Fullerton to qualify for the NCAA Championships.

Competing unattached at the Cal State Fullerton Open on Nov. 23 — the same day his brother won the Missouri Open — Boris won all four of his matches, defeating Tony Denegall 11-2, Cal State Fullerton's Armando Gonzalez 2-0, Cal State Bakersfield's Elijah Nacita 6-4 and Cal State Fullerton's Teddy Astorga 5-0.

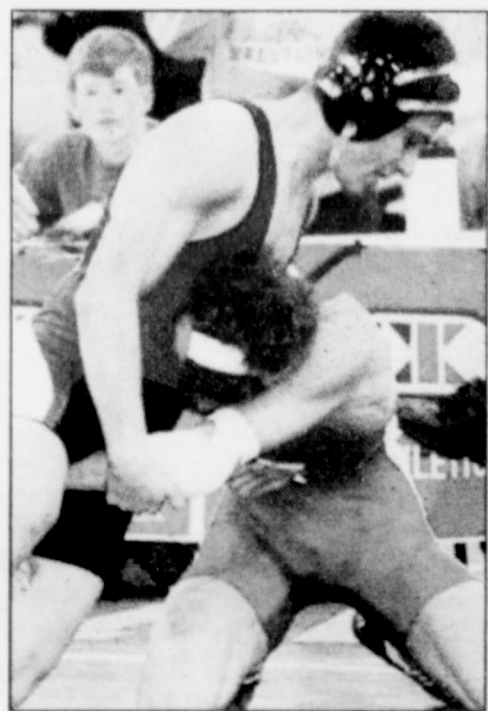


PHOTO COURTESY OF CAL POLY ATHLETICS

Boris Novachkov (left), Filip's brother, was 19-12 for Cal Poly as a true freshman a year ago. He's redshirting this season.

The Novachkov family was supposed to move to Canada originally, using a green-card family package Filip's mother had, but the Novachkovs ended up not moving at first. The second time Filip's mother got a family package, it was for the U.S.

"I think my parents pretty much sacrificed themselves so me and my brother could have a better opportunity, a better education in America," says Filip, who at Fremont High had a 4.0 GPA and became an Academic Student of the Year.

see Novachkovs, page 15

women's basketball | LOYOLA MARYMOUNT 86, CAL POLY 77

LMU bombs way past Mustangs

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Behind the top 3-point shooting display in team history, the Loyola Marymount women's basketball team defeated Cal Poly 86-77 at Mott Gym on Wednesday night.

Lions guard Lisa Helmers hit six 3-pointers en route to a game-high 22 points. Helmers hit half of the team's dozen 3-pointers, which tied a team record.

In a game of runs, the Lions (6-1) jumped right out of the gate, outscoring Cal Poly 12-0 to start the game. The Mustangs were able to close the gap to 16-14 before LMU went on an 11-0 run, taking a 27-14 lead.

Cal Poly (4-3) was able to battle back, outscoring the Lions 19-10 to end the first half and trail 37-33.

Coming off a week in which she was named co-Big West Conference Player of the Week, Cal Poly senior forward Megan Harrison led the Mustangs with 18 points on 8-of-20 shooting.

Senior forward Lisa McBride had a solid all-around game for the Mustangs, scoring 15 points, grabbing seven rebounds and adding six assists.

Cal Poly was able to get within two on multiple occasions early in the second half before the Lions went on a 15-4 run to take a commanding 56-43 lead with 13:19 remaining.

The Mustangs, who were outrebounded 41-37, would not get within five points the rest of the way.

After scoring 23 points against the Mustangs



PATRICK BARBIERI SPECIAL TO THE MUSTANG DAILY

Loyola Marymount sophomore center Maggie Burkett (31) defends against Cal Poly freshman center Abby Bloetscher (right) during the Lions' 86-77 win at Mott Gym on Wednesday night.

a year ago, guard Renahy Young hit 10 of 12 free throws on her way to 19 points, and added three rebounds and four assists.

LMU shot 50 percent from the floor while holding the Mustangs to 41.4 percent.

The Lions hit their 12 shots from long range on 24 attempts from behind the arc.

Cal Poly will conclude its five-game homestand by hosting San Francisco at 2 p.m. Sunday in Mott Gym.

— Scott Silvey